

Lichens and pollution

Field work booklet

You will be identifying the lichen species found on the trunk and bark of certain trees at different sites. Read the instructions carefully and complete the tables clearly and accurately.

Site A

Site information

Grid reference:

Land-use:

*** You could also draw a field sketch or take photos of the site.**

Trunk survey

1. Identify tree species using the “which tree?” resource. Write the name of the species into the table
 2. Choose 3 accessible trees of the same species to survey
 3. Carefully and accurately use the key and colour plates to identify the species of lichen on each trunk and complete the table
 4. Use the chart to record the pollution tolerance level of each species found
- * Take care not to mistake the bright green algae species often found on trees

Tree species used:		
Tree number	Lichen species identified on trunk	Pollution tolerance (P=polluted, M=moderate, S=slight, C=clean)
Tree 1		
Tree 2		
Tree 3		

Twig survey

1. You need to select accessible twigs in non-shaded parts of the canopy from one or more of the trees you used for the trunk survey
2. You must survey 10 twigs in total
3. They should be about 3-4 cm in diameter at the base (where they meet the main branch)
4. Record any lichen species found in the table below

Twig number	Lichen species identified on each twig	Pollution tolerance (P, M, S or C)
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		

Site B

Site information

Grid reference:

Land-use:

* You could also draw a field sketch or take photos of the site.

Trunk survey

Repeat the process as for site A. If possible, try to use the same tree species.

Tree species used:		
Tree number	Lichen species identified on trunk	Pollution tolerance (P=polluted, M=moderate, S=slight, C=clean)
Tree 1		
Tree 2		
Tree 3		

Twig survey

Twig number	Lichen species identified on each twig	Pollution tolerance (P, M, S or C)
1		
2		

3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		